

Next Meeting: Monday May 19th, 2014 at 7:00 PM

Rights of Way of the Town of Rockport
Minutes of the Meeting of April 28, 2014

Rockport Town Hall, Room A

Approved

Meeting called to order 7:00 PM, Tom Kerans presiding.

Members Present:

Tom Kerans, Bill Mueller, Marcia Siegel, Jane Moginot, Mary Devaney, Jill Solomon, Gil McCarthy, Matt Cegelis

Members Absent: none

Vacant Committee Seats: One

Associate Members: Phyllis Krenn, Ted Tarr

Guests: Ryan Drohan and Leah Abbot - 19 Haven Ave., Jeff Hunter – 42 Granite St., Phil Morrow – 14 Phillips Ave., Matt Natti, Z Seppalla, Jonathan Ring

Administrative Business

Gil McCarthy was welcomed back onto the committee.

Phil Morrow expressed interest in joining the committee to fill the remaining open seat. He was encouraged by the committee to apply for it.

ROW Captains assignments:

Tom Kerans: Hillside/Blueberry Lane area, water tank area

Marcia Siegel: Flat Point, Emerson Point, Loblolly, Cogswell

Mary Devaney: Quarries, Rockport Woods, Squam Rd. area, Manning Park.

Phyllis Krenn: Downtown, Front Beach, Back Beach

Gil McCarthy: Delemater Preserve, Waring Field

Matt Cegelis: South Woods, Kieran Preserve, Headlands, Old Garden Beach

Jill Suggests we discuss fundraising options. We will take up at our next meeting.

Bill suggests that Tom be our designated liaison with the DPW to get better communications established.

Tom reports that we are still in the running to receive a \$2,800. grant from the Mass. Dept. of Fisheries to maintain the Atlantic Path.

Update on Trail Mapping Project

Matt Cegelis reported that he attended a meeting on April 18th with Peter Van Demark (OSRC) and Matt Barrett, DPW GIS Program Manager to discuss the addition of a trails layer to the Assessors map, based on Peter's GIS data. Matt B. said he will be happy to

create and update (based on a schedule we will provide) a new “Trails” layer to the Rockport Assessors Online Map. We agreed that there should be two versions of the layer... a comprehensive map that shows all known trails for internal use only (Fire Dept., Police, appropriate Town Committees) and a public map showing trails on public land and on parcels where permission has been granted.

Next step is for Matt C. to meet with Cape Ann Trail Stewards (CATS) and Essex County Greenbelt Association to enlist their assistance in getting property owner permissions to publish a publicly available map that includes trails which cross their properties. Mary Devaney, who is on the CATS Board of Directors (along with Ted Tarr) will arrange for Matt C. to be on the agenda at the next CATS Board meeting to seek their assistance.

Los Angeles Ave.

Matt Natti presented results of his inspection of the path with Nick Holland. The path that is now visible and being used is far off the center line. Clearing of the path next to lot #56 would be needed to make it a straight line (could be done in $\frac{1}{2}$ day). Current path veers off diagonally onto Mr. James’ property.

Ryan Drohan spoke about how the trail is clear and walkable now, and needs only light maintenance. Leah Abbott said they don’t want it to look like Reed’s Lane, and wood chips are not needed. Mrs. Tuller, another abutter on Phillips Ave., is reportedly fine with clearing the trail. Mrs. Eaves is reportedly okay with it as well.

Matt N. reports that a fresh survey has apparently been done.

Bill recommended that we wait until Mr. James is back in town on May 10th to discuss our plan with him. Tom will write to Mr. James to let him know of our intent.

Earth Day

Bill reports that we had a great turnout and that much was accomplished in cleaning up the Atlantic Path and Andrews Woods, thanks to the large group of volunteers.

New Business

Ted Tarr reports that Reed’s Lane still has a lot of brush to be removed in the area adjacent to the Atlantic Path. Matt Natti said that backing a truck down in this area at this time of year was not advisable due to the likelihood of it getting stuck or tearing up the path in getting out.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

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Monday, May 19th, 7:00 PM, Town Hall, Conf. Rm. A

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Cegelis